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December 7, 2007

TO: Each Health Deputy

FROM: John F. Schunhoff, Ph.D. 
Chief Deputy Director

SUBJECT: **SAFEWALKS4KIDS PROGRAM**

On September 18, 2007 the Board voted to approve and authorize the Director of Public Health to accept a grant agreement in the amount of \$375,758 over two years from the California State Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to provide funding for the implementation of the SafeWalks4Kids program.

SafeWalks4Kids is a school-based child pedestrian safety program for children ages 5 to 11. The program is implemented by the Department of Public Health (DPH) through the Injury and Violence Prevention Program (IVPP) and is funded for 120 schools throughout Los Angeles County.

At the September 12, 2007 Agenda Review Meeting you requested that DPH provide a description of the criteria that would be used to select schools to approach for participation in SafeWalks4Kids. At that time the selection process had not yet been finalized, but we committed to provide you with the selection criteria once they had been developed. This memo is a response to that request.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTING SCHOOLS

To determine which schools to approach for SafeWalks4Kids, IVPP will consider the three criteria that were included in the proposal funded by OTS:

1. Age group – Schools must serve children ages 5 through 11.
2. Low-income areas – For this project these areas are defined as those in which 20% or more 5- to 11-year-olds live in households with incomes at or below the federal poverty level. Data from the 2000 U.S. Census were used to make this determination.
3. Child pedestrian injury hospitalization rates – These data are from the statewide hospitalization discharge reports from the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHDP) for the years 1997-2006. IVPP used the number of child injury hospitalizations in each ZIP code over the ten year period to determine the injury rates per ZIP code.

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In addition, DPH wants to ensure geographic diversity and a minimum of five participating schools in each SPA.

Using these criteria, 50 ZIP codes of interest have been identified (see Attachment) and the elementary schools in these ZIP codes are now being identified.

We expect this process to yield approximately 300 schools to approach for the SafeWalks4Kids Program in the school districts which serve the cities or communities on the attachment. Although the program is funded for implementation in only 120 schools, IVPP will need to approach more than 120 schools because some will choose not to participate. In addition, selecting the schools will be an ongoing process over the course of the grant period because the program does not have adequate capacity to implement SafeWalks4Kids in all 120 schools at the same time.

IVPP will begin the selection process by first approaching schools in the ZIP codes with the highest child pedestrian injury rates, while ensuring geographic diversity by selecting at least five schools in each SPA.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

JFS:ws
PH:709:007

Attachment

ZIP Codes With >20% of 5-11 Year Olds Living in Poverty (2000) and Pedestrian Injury Hospitalizations Among 5-11 Year Olds (1997-2006)

SPA	ZIP	City	Percent in Poverty	Pedestrian Injuries	Pedestrian Injury Rate
1	93550	Palmdale	30.7%	12	1.09
2	91331	Arleta/Pacoima	24.4%	19	1.34
3	91706	Baldwin Park	22.1%	27	2.43
3	91732	El Monte	33.2%	26	2.95
3	91733	South El Monte	32.7%	16	2.47
3	91744	Industry	22.0%	30	2.47
3	91766	Pomona	30.4%	24	2.22
4	90019	Country Club Park, Mid City	31.4%	22	2.98
4	90026	Echo Park/Silverlake	41.5%	18	2.2
4	90031	Montecito Heights	44.1%	22	4.45
4	90032	El Sereno/Monterey Hills	26.7%	16	2.7
4	90033	Boyle Heights	47.7%	33	4.53
4	90042	Highland Park	26.5%	18	2.18
4	90057	Westlake	53.9%	16	3.38
5	90034	Los Angeles	25.7%	11	2.38
6	90001	Florence, South Los Angeles	47.8%	43	4.76
6	90002	Watts	48.7%	55	7.02
6	90003	South Los Angeles	52.6%	58	6.13
6	90011	South Los Angeles	49.3%	86	5.24
6	90016	West Adams	33.4%	20	3.33
6	90018	Jefferson Park	34.9%	18	2.99
6	90037	South Los Angeles	48.9%	42	4.92
6	90043	Hyde Park/View Park/Windsor Hills	29.2%	28	5.2
6	90044	Athens	47.9%	93	6.47
6	90047	South Los Angeles	33.6%	28	4.42
6	90059	Watts/Willowbrook	53.6%	41	6.07
6	90061	South Los Angeles	45.6%	23	5.83
6	90220	Compton/Rancho Dominguez	36.2%	31	4.14
6	90221	Compton/East Rancho Dominguez	41.0%	33	3.84
6	90222	Compton/Rosewood/Willowbrook	41.7%	18	3.67
6	90262	Lynwood	30.0%	39	3.47
7	90022	East Los Angeles	35.4%	33	3.35
7	90023	East Los Angeles	39.3%	28	3.97
7	90063	City Terrace	35.8%	33	4.12
7	90201	Bell	34.3%	50	2.96
7	90255	Huntington Park	30.8%	42	3.64
7	90280	South Gate	24.6%	34	2.37

SPA	ZIP	City	Percent in Poverty	Pedestrian Injuries	Pedestrian Injury Rate
7	90706	Bellflower	21.6%	22	2.25
8	90247	Gardena	25.6%	21	3.82
8	90250	Hawthorne	24.3%	42	3.39
8	90302	Inglewood	31.1%	16	3.83
8	90303	Inglewood	36.5%	27	6.24
8	90731	San Pedro	31.4%	17	2.5
8	90744	Wilmington	38.8%	32	3.96
8	90804	Long Beach	38.3%	18	3.22
8	90805	Long Beach	31.1%	32	2.21
8	90806	Long Beach	39.6%	20	2.77
8	90810	Long Beach	28.8%	19	3.76
8	90813	Long Beach	58.1%	40	3.77

Sources: Population data and poverty percentages from 2000 U.S. Census.

Pedestrian injuries from 1997-2006 OSHPD Hospital Discharge Data

Average annual injury rate per 10,000 population